

## MONTHLY FIRE WEATHER / FIRE DANGER OUTLOOK

**JULY 2006**

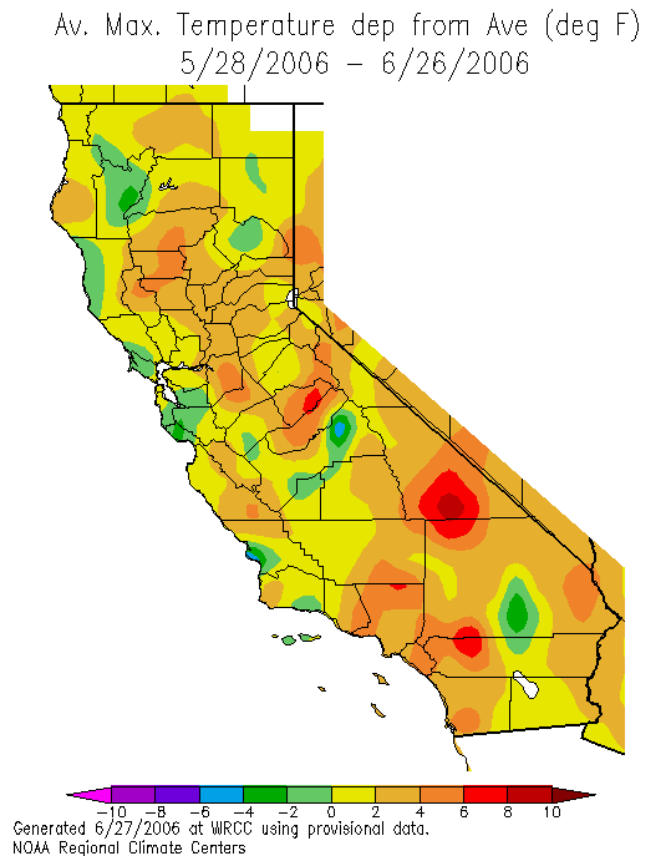
1. **REPORTING UNIT:** Southern California Geographic Area (OSCC)
2. **DATE ISSUED:** June 28, 2006 (updated June 30<sup>th</sup>)
3. **POTENTIAL FOR SERIOUS/CRITICAL FIRE PROBLEMS:**

THIS COMING MONTH	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	X
THIS SEASON	BELOW NORMAL		NORMAL	X	ABOVE NORMAL	X

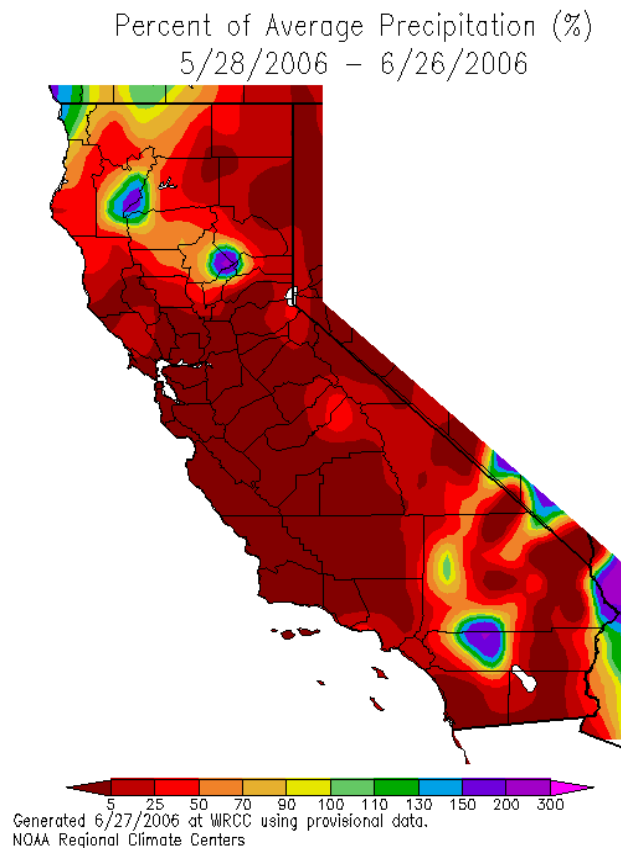
### 4. FIRE WEATHER OUTLOOK

#### Review of June Weather:

June was a very warm month throughout much of the region (**Fig. 1**). There were some isolated areas that were a few degrees or so below normal, but for the most part maximum temperatures were mainly from 3 to 6 degrees above normal. There were two major periods of heat. The first period was between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, with offshore Santa Ana winds over portions of Southern California, with areas of gusts to a little over 30 mph, on the 16th. The second period of heat started on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month and continued through the remainder of the month. Much of this heat wave had various amounts of subtropical moisture, which added to the discomfort. Precipitation in June is normally the lowest of any month of the year. Somewhat unusual this June, is that we had two distinct periods of subtropical moisture moving in from the southeast and south. The first period was on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and the second period started on the 24<sup>th</sup> and continued through the rest of the month. Both periods of subtropical moisture produced some showers, thundershowers, dry lightning and some lightning fires to the region. These were generally isolated to widely scattered in aerial coverage. (**Fig 2.**) shows the percent of average precipitation for the area for most of June. With the convective nature of these showers, there were many small areas of showers that did not fall at a weather station. Also after this map was drawn, there was some significant precipitation over portions of the Sierra.



**Fig. 1**



**Fig. 2**

### Discussion for the July 2006 Forecast:

There remains no strong signal for any certain type of weather pattern to occur over our region this month. Sea surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific are fairly close to normal. The weak La Nina condition is essentially gone. Most models are now showing the beginning of at least a weak El Nino returning. For the month of July, we expect temperatures to average near to a somewhat above normal. Precipitation is expected to average near normal. July's precipitation is generally light, but areas of heavy thundershowers can produce isolated areas of significant precipitation. If the June weather pattern continues into July, we could see two to three periods of subtropical moisture affecting at least some portions of the region.

### 5. CURRENT FUELS

FINE-GRASS STAGE	GREEN (higher elevations)	X	CURED (all other areas)	X		
NEW GROWTH	SPARSE	X	NORMAL		ABOVE NORMAL	

#### A. LIVE FUEL MOISTURE (Southern California Valleys):

Ranges from around 94% to 109% (down 37% - 53% since mid May).

#### B. 1000-HOUR DEAD FUEL MOISTURE FOR ALL PSAs:

8% to 13% (generally higher north and lower south).

#### C. 100-HOUR DEAD FUEL MOISTURE FOR ALL PSAs:

6 to 10% (except 4% in the deserts).

### 6. AVERAGE CDF FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (STATEWIDE) YEAR TO DATE (thru June 18<sup>th</sup>):

<u>Fires</u>	<u>Acres</u>
2,485	22,326

### 7. ACTUAL CDF FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES BURNED (STATEWIDE) YEAR TO DATE (thru June 18<sup>th</sup>):

<u>Fires</u>	<u>Acres</u>
2,240	10,616

### 8. CDF FIRE OCCURRENCE/ACRES (STATEWIDE) BURNED 2005 TO DATE (thru June 18<sup>th</sup>):

<u>Fires</u>	<u>Acres</u>
1,922	14,365

### 9. NUMBER OF FIRES/ACRES BURNED PER IC-209s YEAR (2006) TO DATE:

Fires	Acres
40	37,826

### 10. NUMBER OF FIRES/ACRES BURNED PER IC-209 FOR JUNE 2006:

Fires	Acres
17	21,548

## 11. WRITTEN SUMMARY FOR JULY:

<b>Geographic Area</b>	Southern California.
<b>Precipitation Outlook</b>	Near normal, which is usually insignificant.
<b>Temperature Outlook</b>	Above normal.
<b>Fuels and Fire Danger Concerns</b>	Main concern will be in the Central Coast Mountains and Valleys, deserts and Southern Mountains.
<b>Prescribe Fire Implications</b>	Little or no burning is expected, except possibly in the mid to upper elevations of the Sierra. This will be dependent upon the number of WFUs being monitored.
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	No issues.

For additional input regarding weather, see the NWS 30- and 90-day temp and precip maps.

The most recently updated forecasts can be found at this URL:

[http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/multi\\_season/13\\_seasonal\\_outlooks/color/page2.gif](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/multi_season/13_seasonal_outlooks/color/page2.gif).

## 12. LARGE FIRE POTENTIAL MAP FOR JULY 2006

